

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03
TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /108 W
-----301219Z 048890 /45

R 290725Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4808
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR VIA POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 1718

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ECIN, PBOR, TZ, KE
SUBJECT: EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC)

REF: NAIROBI 5036 (NOTAL)

1. TANGOV'S ATTITUDE TOWARD DISINTEGRATION OF EAC APPEARS TO BE MORE COMPLEX THAN THAT OF KENYA (REFTEL). LIKE KENYA, TANZANIA FEELS BLAME LIES ON THE OTHER SIDE. TANGOV'S BITTERNESS AND DIFFICULTY IN COMMUNICATING WITH KENYA STEMS IN PART FROM ITS CHARACTERISTIC "MORAL AND JUST" APPROACH TO REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. LEGAL ARGUMENTS, FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS, AND ECONOMIC REALITIES ARE OFTEN OVER-SHADOWED IN TANZANIAN THINKING BY ITS SENSE OF SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS.

2. TANGOV REACTED EMOTIONALLY TO COLLAPSE OF EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS, AND THOUGHT NAIVELY THAT CLOSURE OF BORDER, IMPOUNDMENT OF KENYAN PROPERTY, AND CESSION OF TRADE WOULD INFILCT SUFFICIENT PAIN ON KENYAN ECONOMY TO FORCE KENYA GOVERNMENT REEVALUATE CONFIDENTIAL

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ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD EAC. TANGOV HOPED ITS ACTIONS WOULD BE LEVERAGE FOR "FAIRER" DISSOLUTION OF EAC ASSETS AND "SOUNDER" TRADE AND INVESTMENT RELATIONSHIP IN FUTURE. IT DIRECTED ITS WRATH AT KENYA LEADERS "WHO DO NOT HAVE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE AT HEART", BUT SAID PRES. KENYATTA HIMSELF IS NOT AN ENEMY OF EAST AFRICAN COOPERATION.

3. TANGOV DOES NOT TAKE POSITION THAT BREAKUP OF EAC CORPORATIONS, PARTICULARLY AIRLINES, WAS INEVITABLE. WITH REGRET, TANGOV VIEWS THEM BEYOND RESUSCITATION IN NEAR FUTURE AND BY NECESSITY IT ASSUMING THE ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL BURDEN OF ESTABLISHING NATIONAL TRANSPORT SERVICES AND FACILITIES PREVIOUSLY HANDLED ON REGIONAL BASIS. AS CONSEQUENCE, SOME ANTICIPATED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WILL BE POSTPONED. NYERERE CHARACTERIZED BREAK-UP OF CORPORATIONS AS "MATTER FOR SHAME, NOT FOR PRIDE".

4. TANZANIA HAD ALREADY DECIDED TO BECOME LESS RELIANT ON KENYA FOR BASIC CONSUMER RELATED ITEMS AND TO EXPAND COMMERCIAL LINS WITH MOZAMBIQUE AND ZAMBIA. CLOSURE OF KENYA BORDER HAS SEVERELY DISRUPTED TANZANIA TOURISM AND INDUSTRY, DEPENDENT ON KENYA FOR NUMBER OF PRODUCTS AND SPARES, BUT TANZANIA HAS NEVER LAID GREAT STOCK IN TOURISM AND HAS OFTEN PROVEN WILLING TO MAKE ECONOMIC "SACRIFICES" FOR MORAL AND IDEOLOGICAL CAUSES.

5. WE BELIEVE TANZANIAN LEADERS HOPE THAT ENOUGH OF EAC STRUCTURE CAN SURVIE SO THAT AT SOME FUTURE TIME (FOLLOWING EMERGENCE OF MORE COMPATIBLE GOVERNMENTS IN KENYA AND UGANDA) EAC CAN BE RESURRECTED.

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Message Attributes

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